

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1852.

POLITICS IN WISCONSIN.

ANOTHER WHIG DEMONSTRATION.—Gov. FARWELL, of Wisconsin—lately made Governor by the Whig party and its allies—holds, in his annual message to the Legislature, the following language in regard to the fugitive slave law:

"After a careful examination of the provisions of this law, aside from the question of its constitutionality, I am prepared to express my own opinion that in many of its features it is highly objectionable or unjust; and I am in favor of either such a radical modification as will take from it its odious features or its repeal."

Gov. FARWELL's denunciation is another proof that, while the whole Democratic party, North and South, is willing to let the anti-slavery agitation sleep as it is now settled, in order that they may unite in the maintenance of their old issues and policy, the Northern Whigs, on the other hand, are just as ready now as they have been for fifteen years past to make sectional fanaticism their stepping stone to power.

We copy the above from the Washington Union of Saturday morning merely for the purpose of saying that "the Union" should not regard the position of Governor FARWELL without hope. His present objections to the fugitive slave law are in exact accordance with those expressed a year ago by the Democratic Governor of OHIO, who, having been since re-elected, has patriotically yielded his ultra opinions on that question. Who knows that, if Governor FARWELL be re-elected, he may not pursue the same course? Besides, is "the Union" certain that, if the Democratic candidate for Governor of Wisconsin had been elected, he would have taken a different view of the law referred to? Nothing that happened during the late canvass in Wisconsin gave any indication that the Democrats were less tainted with Abolitionism than the Whigs; but, on the contrary, we had repeated evidences of their disposition to array themselves under a sectional banner. One sample of such evidence that we now have at hand is a copy of certain resolutions adopted at a "Democratic County Convention," held at Milwaukee on the 30th October, and published in the "Daily Wisconsin" of the next day, a paper which is regarded as the leading Democratic organ of the State. These resolutions are as follows:

Resolved, That the Democracy of Milwaukee fully endorse and approve the action of the late State Convention held at Madison; that we recognize in the nominees of that Convention men worthy to be the standard-bearers of the Democratic party—men of sterling integrity, of tried and true principles; and that with the name of D. A. J. URMAN inscribed upon our banner, we enter the contest with the fullest confidence of achieving a glorious triumph for Democratic principles.

Resolved, That we are opposed to and protest against the formation of more slave States in territory now free, and in favor of the abolition of slavery wherever Congress has power so to do.

These Democratic resolutions, it is clear, are very far from showing a "willingness to let the slavery agitation sleep," yet neither they nor their authors have ever to this day received any rebuke from the "Union"; and, what argues still worse for the fairness of that paper, is the fact that in giving the above extract of six lines from the Message of Governor FARWELL, it has been careful to overlook what the Governor says in qualification of it, "that he does not advise, but rather discontinue, any useless agitation on the subject of slavery"—language which is strongly in contrast with that contained in the foregoing resolutions of the Democracy. We therefore do the Governor the justice to insert this part of his Message, that it may be read in connexion with what has been quoted by "the Union." It is in the following words:

"While holding these sentiments, however, I would not advise but rather discontinue any useless agitation on the subject of slavery, that may do much harm by engendering sectional feeling, without accomplishing any good; and would urge obedience and submission to this as well as all other laws, so long as they exist and are in force. Such I believe to be the imperative duty of every citizen under all possible circumstances. Resistance to law and insubordination to the legally constituted authorities of the country directly tend to the overthrow of our civil government, the introduction of anarchy and misrule, and would be far more dangerous to the public safety than the enactment or repeal of any law that could be devised."

And now, having cited these scraps of history for the benefit of "the Union," we will add an epitome of the principles of the WHIGS of the same State, as set forth in the "Milwaukee Journal" of the 21st ultimo, the leading Whig organ:

NATIONAL WHIG PRINCIPLES.

1. The compromise of sectional interests for the promotion of the general good. The Whig party knows neither North nor South, and endorses no ultra opinions of any type. A political triumph by the aid of any new local question or ephemeral measure would be worse than a defeat in defence of established principles.

2. Union among the several States and peace with foreign nations. While we admit no interference with our internal affairs, we offer none with the entangling alliances and hereditary antipathies of the military establishments of the Old World. They may fight out their own quarrels, and by discipline and education learn the art of self-government. Ours is a higher, nobler work, to cultivate the arts of peace.

3. The union of the States, one and inseparable. The harmony of the whole system is dependent upon the proper relations of the several parts. We are at home, as we are known abroad, the United States of America. The delusive doctrine of State rights finds no place in the system of Whig principles.

4. The Government being for the benefit of the governed, is bound to provide for the interests of all its members. Tariff for protection as well as revenue has ever been the policy of the Whig party. The improvement of rivers and harbors upon the lakes, our great inland seas, is as much a part of the General Government as the improvement of the Atlantic seaboard. A discrimination of the older and more wealthy cities and States may secure the votes of the many, but is unjust and oppressive upon the few who are laying the foundation of our Western States and cities.

5. The liquidation of the national debt; the limitation of expenditures within the annual income; the faithful, economical discharge of official duties by officers of all grades, at home and abroad, and decided stand against demagogism and faction, and enlarging alliances with foreign nations, have been primary articles of the Whig creed from the days of Washington to the present time. Let those repudiate them who will, whilst they are as of no importance compared with some modern notion of Democratic origin and fanciful growth; but as for us, we will walk in the path of our fathers, and give at least a respectful hearing to their last words of warning and advice.

6. A scrupulous regard to the reserved rights of the States and a prompt exercise of the prerogatives of the Government against any and all, whether at the North or South, who combine to violate the Constitution and Laws of the United States. A Government that inflicts no penalties upon evil doers, invites the pity of the wise and the scorn of fools.

Such briefly are the leading national principles of the Whig party. There are also questions of a local character and of temporary operation which may be endorsed by the party, but the principles just enumerated are general, permanent, characteristic, and of vast importance to the interests of the nation as well as of the several States.

M. KOSSUTH AND MR. CLAY.

The interview between M. KOSSUTH and Mr. CLAY has excited a general interest in the country, and the reports of it hitherto given to the public have been somewhat inaccurate, and, at the best, imperfect.

The company present on the occasion consisted of Senators CASS, JONES, of Tennessee, Mr. FENDALL, of this city, and the Hon. PRESLEY EWING, of Kentucky. The last-named gentleman has been induced, at the instance of several persons, and with the consent of Mr. Clay, to give a more extended and careful report of the interview, and especially of Mr. Clay's remarks, which we publish below, and which may be regarded as authentic, having, besides the authority of Mr. EWING, the sanction of Senator Jones, by whom the report has been examined and approved.

M. Kossuth was introduced by Mr. Cass at about three o'clock.

On being presented to Mr. Clay, who rose to receive him, "Sir," said he, "I thank you for the honor of this interview."

"I beg you to believe," said Mr. Clay, interrupting him, "that it is I who am honored. Will you be pleased to be seated?"

After the mutual interchange of civilities, "I owe you, sir," said Mr. Clay, "an apology for not having accepted before the desire you were kind enough to intimate more than once, to see me. But really my health has been so feeble that I did not dare hazard the excitement of so interesting an interview. Besides, sir," he added with some hesitancy, "your wonderful and fascinating eloquence has mesmerized so large a portion of our people, wherever you have gone, and even some of our members of Congress," waving his hand towards the two or three gentlemen who were present, "that I feared to come under its influence, lest you might shake my faith in some principles in regard to the foreign policy of this Government which I have long and constantly cherished. And in regard to this matter, you will allow me, I hope, to speak with sincerity and candor which becomes the interest of the subject for you and for myself, and which is due to us both as votaries of freedom. I trust you will believe me, too, when I tell you that I entertain ever the liveliest sympathies in every struggle for liberty, in Hungary, and in every country. And in this, I believe, I express the universal sentiment of my countrymen. But, sir, for the sake of my country, you must allow me to protest against the policy you propose to her. Waiving the grave and momentous question of the right of one nation to assume the executive power among nations, for the enforcement of international law, or of the right of the United States to dictate to Russia the character of her relations with the nations around her, let us come at once to the practical consideration of the matter. You tell us yourself, with great truth and propriety, that mere sympathy, or the expression of sympathy, cannot advance your purposes. You require material aid. And indeed it is manifest that the mere declarations of the sympathy of Congress, or of the President, or of the public, would be of little avail, unless we were prepared to enforce those declarations by a resort to arms, and unless other nations could see that preparation and determination upon our part. Well, sir, suppose that war should be the issue of the course you propose to us, could we then effect anything for you, ourselves, or the cause of liberty? To transport men and arms across the ocean in sufficient numbers and quantities to be effective against Russia and Austria would be impossible. It is a fact which perhaps may not be generally known, that the most imperative reason with Great Britain for the close of her last war with us, was the immense cost of the transportation and maintenance of forces and the munitions of war on such a distant theatre, and yet she had not perhaps more than thirty thousand men upon this continent at any time. Upon land Russia is invulnerable to us, as we are to her. Upon the ocean, a war between Russia and this country would result in the mutual annoyance to commerce, but probably in little else. I learn recently that her war marine is superior to that of any nation in Europe, except perhaps Great Britain. Her ports are few, her commerce limited; while we, on our part, would offer as a prey to her cruisers a rich and extensive commerce. Thus, sir, after effecting nothing in such a war, after abandoning our ancient policy of amity and non-interference in the affairs of other nations, and thus justifying them in abandoning the terms of forbearance and non-interference, which they have hitherto preserved towards us; after the downfall, perhaps, of the friends of liberal institutions in Europe, her despots, imitating and provoked by our fatal example, may turn upon us in the hour of our weakness and exhaustion, and with an almost equally irresistible force of reason and of arms, they may say to us, 'You have set us the example, you have quit your own to stand on foreign ground, you have abandoned the policy you professed in the day of your weakness, to interfere in the affairs of the people upon this continent, in behalf of those principles the supremacy of which you say is necessary to your prosperity, to your existence. We, in our turn, believing that your anarchical doctrines are destructive of, and that monarchical principles are essential to, the peace, security, and happiness of our subjects, will obliterate the bed which has nourished such noxious weeds; we will crush you, as the propagandists of doctrines so destructive of the peace and good order of the world.' The indomitable spirit of our people might, and would be equal to the emergency, and we might remain unsubdued even by so tremendous a combination, but the consequences to us would be terrible enough. You must allow me, sir, to speak thus freely, as I feel deeply, though my opinion may be of but little import, as the expression of a dying man."

"Sir, the recent melancholy subversion of the Republic of Rome, and that enlightened nation voluntarily placing its neck under the yoke of despotism, teach us to despair of any present success for liberal institutions in Europe; it gives us an impressive warning not to rely upon others for the vindication of our principles, but to look to ourselves, and to cherish with more care than ever the security of our institutions and the preservation of our policy and principles. By the policy to which we have adhered since the days of Washington, we have prospered beyond precedent; we have done more for the cause of liberty in the world than arms could effect; we have shown to other nations the way to greatness and happiness. And if we but continue united as one people, and persevere in the policy which our experience has so clearly and triumphantly vindicated, we may in another quarter of a century furnish an example which the reason of the world cannot resist. But if we should involve ourselves in the tangled web of European politics, in a war in which we could effect nothing; and if in that struggle Hungary should go down, and we should go down with her, where then would be the last hope of the friends of freedom throughout the world? Far better is it for ourselves, for Hungary, and for the cause of liberty, that, adhering to our wise pacific system, and avoiding the distant wars of Europe, we should keep our lamp burning brightly on this western shore, as a light to all nations, than to hazard its utter extinction amid the ruins of fallen or falling republics in Europe."

Throughout Mr. CLAY's remarks M. KOSSUTH listened with the utmost interest and attention; and, indeed, throughout the whole interview he illustrated the rare combination of the profound respect without the smallest sacrifice of his personal dignity, exhibiting in all his bearing the most finished and attractive stamp which can be given to the true metal of genius. He did not enter, in his turn, upon a controversy of Mr. CLAY's views, but began by stating what he thought the reasons of the repeated failures to establish liberal institutions in France. Education and political information, he said, did not descend very deep into the masses of the French people; as an illustration of which fact he stated that hundreds of thousands, when voting for the first time to elevate Louis Napoleon to the Presidency, thought the old Emperor was still alive and imprisoned, and that the vote they then gave would effect his deliverance. He gradually diverted his remarks to the affairs of Hungary, Austria, Russia, and Turkey; speaking of the exaggerated estimate of the strength of

Russia; of the strength and weakness of Turkey—her strength, which consisted in her immense land force, and especially in her militia, or *landwehr*, as he termed it; her weakness, which was the liability of the assault of Constantinople by sea. And here, apparently in allusion to Mr. CLAY's conviction of our being unable to effect any thing in a European war, he spoke of the material aid which might be rendered Turkey in a war with Russia by a naval force for the protection of her capital. After a series of entertaining and instructive remarks about the condition and prospects of Europe generally, he rose to depart.

Mr. CLAY rose and bade him farewell forever, with the utmost cordiality and the kindest sympathy beaming in his face and suffusing his eye; and grasping Kossuth's hand, he said, "God bless you and your family! God bless your country—may she yet be free!"

Kossuth, apparently overwhelmed by the warm and earnest sympathy thus exhibited for himself, his suffering family and country, profoundly bowing, pressed Mr. CLAY's hand to his heart, and replied, in tones of deep emotion, "I thank you, honored sir! I shall pray for you every day that your health may be restored and that God may prolong your life!" Mr. CLAY's eyes filled with tears, he again pressed the hand which clasped his own, probably for the last time, but he could say no more.

Thus closed one of the most interesting scenes it has ever been the fortune of the writer to witness. Two such men rarely meet in this world. The one, having finished the course of his destiny, having lived and acted through the better part of his country's lifetime, and with its growing greatness and renown having achieved his own; the sum of his glorious career just going down in unclouded brilliancy, and sending back the rays of its declining glory upon a happy land; the other, still acting, still hoping and fearing, his star just rising amid storms and clouds and darkness; before him, all the vicissitudes of an uncertain future for himself and for his country, like a prophet of old, proclaiming the principles of the fathers of his country, to whom he was shortly to be gathered—those principles, living by which that country had achieved her greatness; the other, like a scholar, listening to catch the words of wisdom, and hear the lessons of experience, which should be treasured up, and which might yet one day profit his country in her upbuilding; to portray that scene might well challenge the skill of the poet and the painter. The writer would rival, to this part of a Handel and a Haydn, could he transmit to the paper the sweet melancholy cadences of the voice of the Hungarian exile, sounding like the low melancholy wail of the stricken children of freedom; or the trumpeted voice of the old Statesman, gathering some of its ancient strength, and ringing almost as full and sonorous as when in days of old its clarion peal sounded its note of cheer and courage to a nation in its triumphal march to glory and to greatness.

THE IRISH EXILES.

The Committee of American citizens, Irishmen by birth, who proceeded to Washington last week for the purpose of presenting to the President of the United States a memorial on behalf of Spith O'Brien and others, have expressed their sense of the reception extended to them in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the honorable reception extended to the committee by the citizens of Washington can never be forgotten by any of us. Not only have they distinguished themselves for hospitality, and conferred upon each of us a deep sense of personal kindness, but, by their decided course upon this occasion, the inhabitants of the capital of this great country have pronounced significantly to the world the dignity of the movement which we humbly represented.

Resolved, That our honorable representative, Thomas Yates Walsh, merits the thanks of his fellow-citizens for his polite attention and thoughtful kindness on this occasion.

Resolved, That we feel honored and gratified by the reception of the committee by the members of the CABINET, and by the PRESIDENT of the United States in particular. We received from him the assurance that the memorial should receive at his hands the attention desired by those who had addressed it to him, and that he would assume the office of communicating its character and wishes to the Government of Great Britain. This is all the memorial asked, or could ask. The memorialists would never have consented that the Government of the United States should assert a right, or ask a favor from the Government of Great Britain, connected with the destinies of these prisoners, in a manner that might be calculated to hazard the dignity of our Republic. The Irish adopted citizens of these United States have carefully abstained from any measure that might lead to embroil this country in conflicts abroad.

FROM CHILL.

By way of Havana we have accounts from Valparaíso to the 25th of November.

Chill is represented to be in a desperate condition, although the Government party was almost certain of success in the contest. On the 26th of October a revolt took place in the province of Copiapo. More than two thousand persons belonging to the mines rose at Chanarrillo, and with the cry of "Viva Cruz!" attacked various estates, which they sacked, and also the villages of Chanarrillo and Juan Godoy. The next day they were attacked and dispersed by a section of one hundred regular troops. Many were made prisoners.

Valparaíso itself was the scene of a bloody affray. On the 26th of October a party of insurgents took possession of a barracks, and, finding there two hundred muskets, they ran to the plaza and proclaimed Gen. Cruz. A short time afterwards Gen. Blanco, with one hundred and eighty men, attacked the insurgents, and dispersed them after a severe action. At night some of them again entered the city, but were soon put to flight. During the day eleven were killed and forty-eight wounded. The revolution was suppressed in every quarter but Coquimbo and Concepcion. In the north a small division of four hundred men was still in the field. In the south the belligerent armies were in each other's presence. The outposts of Gen. Cruz had been drawn in on all sides, and he was compelled to retire further south in search of better positions. At the last accounts he was strongly entrenched, though his vanguard had been routed.

A letter from Coquimbo says that on the 25th of October an attack was made on the positions of the insurgents in that place. They took refuge in a house where they were cannonaded. The house took fire, and the flames communicated to the house of David Ross, the British consul, which was destroyed, together with the archives, &c. Many other houses were burnt. The commandant of a French vessel of war in the harbor had sent an officer on shore offering mediation, but the result was not known.

A letter from an officer on board the U. S. ship *Falmouth* makes the following mention of an earthquake experienced by those on board that ship:

"U. S. SHIP FALMOUTH, at SEA, JULY 15, 1851. This morning, about 6 o'clock, in latitude 48 deg. 13 min. N., and longitude 127 deg. 12 min. W., we had one of the finest shocks of an earthquake that I have ever felt. It came from the southwest and eastward, lasted about twenty seconds, and was accompanied by a loud, rumbling noise, resembling thunder. The ship shook and trembled violently. The feeling was somewhat similar to that felt in railroad cars running over a very rough track. No commotion was seen in the water, and the barometer indicated no change in the atmosphere."

COST OF TELEGRAPHIC OPERATIONS.—It is stated in the February number of Appleton's Mechanics Magazine, a valuable journal, that the extent of telegraphic lines in the United States and Canada, exceeds 12,000 miles, involving a capital of more than three millions of dollars. To work these lines costs annually 720 tons zinc, worth \$67,000; more than a million pounds of nitric acid, worth \$117,000; and \$27,000 worth of mercury, besides a considerable value in sulphuric acid, &c. On the line from Pittsburgh to Cincinnati alone, there were transmitted in the year 1850, 364,569 paid despatches, and the revenue received was \$73,278.

A fatal affray occurred a few days since at Winchester, Wayne county, (Mississippi) between W. T. LINDSEY, Esq., late a candidate for representative and the postmaster of the village, and Mr. MATTHEW LEWIS, in which the former was killed.

CALIFORNIA INTELLIGENCE.

The following are the details of the late mining intelligence from California, the dates from San Francisco being to the 2d January:

Mining operations are still conducted with great success. The rains have fallen copiously throughout the State; and it is possible, from present appearances, that sufficient water will fall during the next three months to enable the miners to wash all the earth they have prepared in anticipation, and afford profitable employment to all, in the flats and ravines, until the rivers recede in the spring. A correspondent, writing from Ophir, (in the north) mentions three men, who, before the rain, had prepared about twelve thousand bushels of earth, which, when they came to test it fairly, was found to yield an average of \$2 per bushel. The same writer says that he could enumerate a great many parties in that region who are equally fortunate.

In some of the more northern districts mining operations will be seriously interfered with by the snows, but not probably to such an extent as to be perceptible in the general result of the season. At Onion Valley, and other points in the vicinity, there was a heavy fall of snow about the 12th December, which suspended work for the time being. Yet some localities, deemed extraordinarily rich, have proved total failures, and have involved hundreds of miners in a serious loss of time, money, and labor. This result is particularly striking in the case of the famous Bear Valley diggings, in Mariposa county. In speaking of this point, a correspondent of the Stockton Republican gives some interesting facts which, strongly contrast with the exaggerated accounts that have been so generally published relative to the productiveness of different mines:

"The columns of your contemporaries have lately been filled with accounts of a wonderful discovery of a gold vein, made by some Mexicans in Bear Valley. The statements made of the amount of gold extracted have varied from \$220,000 to \$450,000! Now, as I conceive that such unjustifiable exaggeration inflicts a serious injury on the community in general, I beg leave to correct the statements so made, by assuring you that I have visited the spot, and have no hesitation in affirming that the whole amount of gold extracted up to this day does not exceed seven thousand dollars. There are a number of excavations made, and being made, but the enterprising miners are now taking out nothing, but water in abundance—unprofitable—silver and—silver from their pockets."

Quartz operators are continuing their enterprises with great energy, though there have been no extraordinary developments, nor any remarkable instances of success in extracting gold. A large proportion of the companies whose movements are made public are rather speculative than practical, and do not afford a reliable indication of what is doing, or may be done, in quartz mining.

The annexed table exhibits the shipments from San Francisco during the three months ending December 31, 1851:

Official Report of Gold and Silver shipped from San Francisco.

Date.	Vessel's name.	Destination.	Amount.
Oct. 1.	Oregon	Panama	\$2,200,000 00
2.	Independence	San Juan del Sud.	117,050 00
6.	N. B. Palmer	Shanghai	42,000 00
14.	California	Panama	1,900,000 00
14.	North America	Panama	38,930 00
15.	Julius Cesar	Honolulu	16,000 00
16.	New Orleans	Panama	33,000 00
16.	Florida	Manilla	18,760 00
17.	Flying Cloud	Hong Kong	33,120 00
27.	W. of the Wave	Hong Kong	20,000 00
31.	Tennessee	Panama	2,400,000 00

Total October . . . 8,838,875 00

Nov. 1.	Pacific	San Juan del Sud.	76,011 00
1.	Clara	Valparaiso	108,129 29
14.	Northerner	Panama	1,700,000 00
15.	Gold Hunter	San Juan del Sud.	37,888 00
15.	Mercedes	Valparaiso	166,000 00
21.	Eureka	Hong Kong	25,734 00

Total November . . . 2,107,762 79

Dec. 1.	Independence	San Juan del Sud.	63,002 00
4.	Golden Gate	Panama	2,200,000 00
5.	Honolulu	Ports in Pacific	8,000 00
12.	Challenge	Hong Kong	40,000 00
13.	California	Panama	1,300,000 00
31.	Oregon	Panama	1,400,000 00

Total December . . . 5,011,002 00

Total for three months ending December 31st . . . 13,963,639 79

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

In the New Orleans "True Delta" we have the following intelligence from Brownsville, coming down to the 6th instant:

The killing and robbing of six men of a Mexican gang near Roma, by a party who crossed the Rio Grande on Christmas night, from this side of the river, is charged by the Flag to Carraval's men, and that journal adds:

"The success and impunity attending this foray induced another gang of these patriots at Rio Grande City to try their hand at the game, and under command of the gallant Capt. Edmonson, murdered three men, stole thirteen horses, guns, &c., returned to our territory in safety, with the exception of a severe wound received by the valiant leader. This was effected while our troops lay at their quarters within less than a quarter of a mile of the ferry where they crossed."

In regard to Carraval's band, the Flag says it has nothing reliable in relation to their movements, but it learns that—"They are still occupying some of the unknown regions between the Rio Grande and the Colorado. We have seen some three or four of their leaders about town for the few last days."

"No doubt what force they have is not far from this city, and it is whispered around confidentially that they have eighteen hundred men and two pieces of artillery arrived with Capt. Ford from Texas. We judge, from all we can learn, some reinforcements have really arrived at last, and that the further attack upon Matamoros is seriously meditated, perhaps ere many days. Gen. Arvalo has under his command at least twenty-five hundred men, with guns and entrenchments, in fact, every material requisite for a successful defence of his position."

Capt. Benjamin P. Willis, an old citizen of Brownsville, was lately assassinated near Santa Rita, in Cameron county. His body was found on the road, a gunshot wound through the chest, which it was supposed, caused instant death. There was not even a suspicion as to who killed him.

LETTER FROM FLORIDA.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

TAMPA, FLORIDA, JANUARY 18, 1852.

What are you doing up your way? Has some Arctic Expedition left the door of the northwest passage open? The weather at my last writing had been unsettled for some days; since then winter, yes, real winter, has been down on us in earnest. The mercury on the morning of the 14th fell as low as 24°, with a cold chilly nother, such as we have not been accustomed to for a long time. The "oldest inhabitant" says that it has not been so cold since '35. Our orange trees and gardens look blank enough since, and nothing is talked of but the "great freeze," especially among the juveniles, many of whom were astonished for the first time, at the sight of window glass over a duck pond, or in the bottom of a wash tub. The Indians are quiet, and do not appear inclined to raise a disturbance, if they can avoid it.

FROM OREGON.

A violent snow-storm was prevailing at Portland on the 23d December. The seat of government for the Territory is located by the presence of the Legislative Assembly at Salem. SAMUEL PARKER has been chosen President of the Council, and Wm. M. KING Speaker of the House. A portion of the members of the Legislature, however, still continued at Oregon City. W. W. BUCK has been appointed Territorial Treasurer, and ALLEN P. MILLER Territorial Librarian.

The British barque *George Anna* has been wrecked at Queen Charlotte's Island, and the crew and twenty-four Americans, who were passengers, are said to have been captured by the Indians. An armed force is to be sent to their relief by Col. MOSES, Collector of the port of Olympia.

FLORIDA INDIANS.—General BLAKE, we learn from the Fort Smith (Ark.) Herald, arrived at that place in company with a delegation of twelve or fifteen Seminoles and Creeks, on their way to Florida, to induce the Seminoles in that State to emigrate to their new homes. General B. feels very sanguine of success, and believes he will be able to accomplish his design in a few weeks.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE.

From the dies upon which was struck the gold medal voted to Gen. SCOTT shortly after the Mexican war, and presented to him some twelve months since, there were also struck one silver and several bronze copies of the original. The silver medal is deposited, we believe, in the State Library. Some of the bronze copies have been presented to distinguished persons from time to time. The late GOVERNOR used the occasion of the departure of two young Virginians for Europe, in November last, to send, as a token of respect proper in itself, and as a means of favorably introducing the bearers abroad, one of these bronze medals to the DUKE OF WELLINGTON. The correspondence on the occasion is here given. The DUKE's letter is written wholly in his own hand.—*Richmond Examiner.*

RICHMOND, (VA.) NOVEMBER 12, 1851.

To his Grace the Duke of WELLINGTON.
SIR: AS GOVERNOR of the Commonwealth of VIRGINIA, I take the liberty of presenting to your Grace a bronze copy of a gold medal voted by the State to Major General WINFIELD SCOTT. I hope you will accept it as a token, however slight, of the admiration which is felt in this Republic, not only among our cities, but in the gorges of our mountains and in the deepest recesses of our forests, for the transcendent military genius you have displayed to the world. WELLINGTON and WATERLOO are household words in our land.

I hope a copy of the medal, which was voted to America's greatest Soldier, may not be unacceptable to your Grace, who understands probably better than any living man how to appreciate military merit, and who can sympathize above all others in the honors paid to military greatness.

With the highest admiration and respect, I have the honor to be your Grace's most obedient servant.

JOHN B. FLOYD.

LONDON, DECEMBER 12, 1851.

SIR: I have had the honor of receiving your Excellency's letter of the 12th November, and the bronze copy of the beautiful gold medal voted by the State of VIRGINIA to Major General WINFIELD SCOTT, in testimony of the sense entertained by the State of his great and distinguished services in command of the army in the war in Mexico.

I am very sensible of the distinction conferred upon me by your Excellency's notice of me upon this occasion. In common with the world at large, I read with admiration the reports of the operations of Gen. SCOTT, and I sincerely rejoice that the State of VIRGINIA has noticed them by this token of its admiration.

I beg to express my thanks for the honor conferred upon me by sending me this beautiful copy in bronze of the gold medal struck by command of the State in honor of Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT, as well as for the kind expressions towards myself personally by which your Excellency has accompanied the gift.

I have the honor to be your most obedient and humble servant.

His Excellency JOHN B. FLOYD.

Governor of the State of VIRGINIA.

FROM MEXICO.

The New Orleans *Picayune* has Vera Cruz papers to the 4th ultimo, and from the city of Mexico to the 28th December.

There is no news of importance. The country generally was quiet, though there had been local disturbances in various places. These, however, were soon suppressed. Congress was continuing the work of organization. The papers have ceased to be alarmed at the aspect of affairs on the Rio Grande. They consider the danger there entirely at an end.

There had been a revolutionary movement on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, headed by ex-Governor Maximiliano Ortiz. A fusillade of four hours was kept up between the insurgents and the Government troops under the command of Governor Mexico, at the end of which time the former dispersed, leaving one of their leaders, named Lopez, a prisoner in the hands of the authorities. He was immediately shot. The members of the diplomatic corps have had a conference with the Minister of Relations in reference to the tariff and the Matamoros schedule. The result was satisfactory to all parties.

FROM TEXAS.

We have Galveston papers to the 16th ultimo. The Legislature was still in session, but had transacted little business of importance, with the exception of the passage through the House of a bill relinquishing to the various counties in the State the proceeds of the taxes for the next two years—the expenses of the State to be during that time defrayed out of the ten million fund. It is thought the bill will be adopted by the Senate.